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April 1, 2021

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire  
Chief Clerk & Administrator  
Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100  
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

RE: Petition of Palmetto Utilities, Inc. for Leave to Substitute Performance Bond for Letter of Credit and Request for Waiver of Notice by Publication and Expedited Review  
**Docket No. 2014-479-S**  
**Docket No. 2021-116-S**

Dear Ms. Boyd:

By this letter, the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") hereby notifies the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") that ORS has reviewed and does not object to the petition filed by Palmetto Utilities, Inc. ("PUI" or the "Company") for leave to substitute a performance bond for its current letter of credit and request for waiver of notice by publication and expedited review ("Petition").

**Overview of the PUI's Request**

In its Petition, PUI requests to substitute a Performance Bond with surety provided by Atlantic Specialty Insurance Company for its current Letter of Credit ("LOC"). PUI also states in its Petition that if the Commission were to grant this Petition, PUI will deliver the executed original Performance Bond to the Commission and ask the Commission request cancellation of the LOC. Finally, PUI requests that this matter be considered by the Commission on an expedited basis without notice by publication or hearing.

**ORS Recommendation**

S.C. Code Ann. Reg. 103-512.3 requires that "the utility shall have on file with the Commission and provide a copy to the ORS a performance bond with sufficient surety using a format prescribed by the [C]ommission." PUI currently has on file with the Commission a LOC in the amount of \$350,000. According to ORS's records, the Company's current LOC will expire on April 30, 2021.

S.C. Code Ann. Reg. 103-512.3.2 states that:

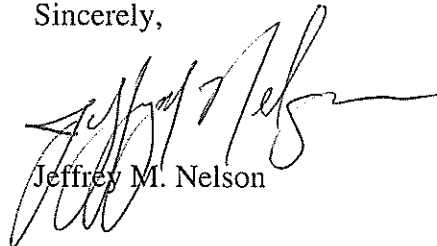
*Sufficient surety may be any duly licensed bonding or insurance company authorized to do business in this State. A corporate surety, other than such a bonding or insurance company, shall not be considered sufficient surety. Sufficient surety may be any individual, as stockholder, partner, sole owner, etc., in the utility, so long as the individual surety's net worth is at least twice the face amount of the performance bond. {emphasis added}*

Therefore, ORS does not object to the Company's request to substitute a Performance Bond with surety provided by Atlantic Specialty Insurance Company for its current LOC. ORS also does not object to the Company's request that this matter be considered by the Commission on an expedited basis without notice by publication or hearing.

The Performance Bond surety should be filed with the Commission on or before April 30, 2021 to ensure continued surety for the Company's Performance Bond.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey M. Nelson

cc: All Parties of Record (via e-mail)  
David Butler, Esquire (via e-mail)